Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended): A classic infectious bursal disease virus (IBDV) mutant that expresses a VP2 protein that binds with monoclonal antibody (moab) B69, ~~characterised in that~~ **wherein** the VP2 protein also binds with moab 67, secreted by hybridoma cell lines HB-9437 and HB-11122, deposited at the ATCC, Rockville, USA, respectively.

2. (Currently Amended): **[A] The** classic IBDV mutant according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ **wherein** the VP2 protein binds with moab B69, moab 67 and moab R63, secreted by hybridoma cell line HB-9490, deposited at the ATCC, Rockville, USA.

3. (Currently Amended): **[A] The** classic IBDV mutant according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ **wherein** the mutant comprises one or more mutations in a classic VP2 coding region, such that the coding region comprises,

   (i) a codon for the amino acid at position 222 encoding **an amino acid selected from the group consisting of** serine ~~or~~ **and** threonine, and

   (ii) a nucleotide sequence encoding an amino acid sequence ~~shown in any of the SEQ ID. No. 1-5~~ **selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID. No. 1, SEQ ID. No. 2, SEQ ID. No. 3, SEQ ID. No. 4 and SEQ ID. No. 5** at positions 318-323.

4. (Currently Amended): A classic IBDV mutant according to claim 3, ~~characterised in that~~ **wherein** the coding region comprises a codon for the amino acid at position 330 encoding **an amino acid selected from the group consisting of** arginine **or and** serine.

5. (Currently Amended): [A] **The** classic IBDV mutant according to ~~claims 1-4, characterised in that~~ **claim 1, wherein** the mutant comprises one or more mutations in a VP2 coding region of IBDV strain D78.

6. (Currently Amended): [A] **The** classic IBDV mutant according to ~~claims 1-5, characterised in that~~ **claim 1, wherein** the mutant comprises a genomic segment A of a classic IBDV, preferably of IBDV strain D78.

7. (Currently Amended): A vaccine for use in the protection of poultry against disease caused by IBDV infection, ~~characterised in that~~ **wherein** the vaccine comprises a classic IBDV mutant according to ~~claims 1-6~~ **claim 1**, together with a pharmaceutical acceptable carrier or diluent.

8. (Currently Amended): [A] **The** vaccine according to claim 7, ~~characterised in~~ **wherein** the classic IBDV mutant is in a live form.

9. (Currently Amended): [A] **The** vaccine according to claim 7 ~~or 8, characterised in that~~ **, wherein** the vaccine further comprises one or more vaccine components of other pathogens infectious to poultry.

10. (Currently Amended): [A] **The** vaccine according to ~~[claims 7-9, characterised in that~~ **claim 7, wherein** the vaccine comprises an adjuvant.

11. (Currently Amended): A method for the preparation of a classic IBDV mutant according to ~~claims 1-6~~ **claim 1**, characterised in that the classic IBDV mutant is propagated in a cell culture and subsequently harvested from the cell culture.

12. (Currently Amended): A method for the preparation of a vaccine ~~according to claims 7-10, characterised in that~~ **wherein** a classic IBDV mutant according to ~~claims 1-6~~ **claim 1** is mixed with a pharmaceutical acceptable carrier or a diluent.

13. (Original): A method for the preparation of a classic infectious bursal disease virus (IBDV) mutant that expresses a VP2 protein that binds with monoclonal antibody (moab) B69 and moab 67, secreted by hybridoma cell lines HB-9437, and HB-11122, deposited at the ATCC, Rockville, USA, respectively, characterised in that one or more mutations are introduced in a VP2 coding region of a classic IBDV strain, such that ,

(i) a codon for the amino acid at position 222 encodes serine or threonine, and

(ii) a nucleotide sequence encoding an amino acid sequence for positions 318-323 encodes an amino acid sequence shown in any of the SEQ ID No. 1-5.

14. (Currently Amended): [A] **The** method according to claim 13, characterised in that the mutation is introduced in the codon for the amino acid at position 222 in a VP2 coding region of a classic IBDV strain that comprises a nucleotide sequence encoding the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID No. 1.

15. (Currently Amended): [A] **The** method according to claim 13 ~~or 14~~, characterised in that the VP2 protein also binds with moab R63, secreted by hybridoma cell line HB-9490, deposited at the ATCC, Rockville, USA.

16. (Currently Amended): [A] **The** method according to ~~claims 13-15~~ **claim 13**, characterised in that the VP2 coding region comprises a codon for the amino acid at position 330 encoding arginine or serine.

17. (Currently Amended): [A] **The** method according to ~~**claims 13-17**~~ **claim 13**, characterised in that the one or more mutations are introduced in a VP2 coding region of IBDV strain D78.

18. (Currently Amended): [A] **The** method according to ~~**claims 13-17**~~ **claim 13**, characterised in that the one or more mutations are introduced in a genomic segment A of a classic IBDV, preferably of IBDV strain D78.

19. (Currently Amended): A method for the preparation of a vaccine for use in the protection of poultry against disease caused by IBDV infection, characterised in that a classic IBDV mutant prepared according to a method described in ~~**claims 13-18**~~ **claim 13** is mixed with a pharmaceutical acceptable carrier or a diluent.